

Task 3487 Complete

From: Paul Baker
To: Dixon, Jerry
Subject: Re: Keep tar sands mining out of Utah

Sent
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MAY 11 2010

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining

Mr. or Ms. Dixon--

The Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act recognizes the importance of a mining industry but sets certain standards by which the mining must be done. The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining has reviewed the mining and reclamation plan for the PR Springs mine and believes the proposed mining operation can take place within the performance standards set by the Act.

It is important to recognize that this operation will be substantially different than those in Canada. There will be no tailings ponds, no toxic chemicals, and a relatively small amount of water will be used. The operation does, of course, entail land disturbance, but it should be possible to reclaim the land with no long term negative effects.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the operation.

>>> Jerry Dixon <js2dixon@hotmail.com> 4/7/2010 9:45 AM >>>

ACTION NEEDED NOW!
Keep tar sands mining out of Utah

ACTION ALERT!

Because of it's broadly effective lands base and environmentally destructive extraction process, the ongoing tar sands boom in the Athabasca region of Alberta Canada has been called an "environmental crime of enormous proportions." Now, a Canadian based company wants to bring these same toxic mining operations to Utah. Earth Energy Resources, Inc. (EER), a Canadian based mining company wants to mine for tar sands in Uintah and Grand Counties East Tavaputs Plateau. EER has requested a permit to begin mining operations from the Utah Division of Oil Gas and Mining (DOGM). EER's corporate website provides that it's "Utah oil sands project contains an estimated 200 million barrels recoverable from it's 7,835 acre state leases."

The EER website also provides that, if the permit is issued, it would "be the first oil sands production permit to be granted in the United States." While, do to the questions marketability and environmental impacts of oil shale and tar sands development, in other states such as Colorado and Wyoming, companies are taking a more cautious approach to development. Utah tar sands, in fact, are much less economically feasible to extract than those being taken from the boreal rainforest in Alberta, Canada primarily because deposits in Utah are not water soluble, and they do not occur in thick layers. According to Randy Udall with the Community Office for Resource Efficiency in Carbondale, Colorado, therefore it "would be easier to produce oil by digging up the asphalt on I 70 between Grand Junction and Green River."

What you can do:

Please send written comments to:

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